



1641  
PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. STK-081  
(7557/65)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANTS: Chubinskaya *et al.*  
SERIAL NO.: 10/081,163 GROUP NO.: 1641  
FILING DATE: February 20, 2002 EXAMINER: Not yet assigned  
TITLE: Methods of Using Bone Morphogenic Proteins as Biomarkers for Determining Cartilage Degeneration and Aging

**CERTIFICATE OF FIRST CLASS MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence, and any documents referred to as enclosed herein, are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on this 19th day of March, 2004.

March 19, 2004  
Date

Brenda T. Kowalcuk  
Brenda T. Kowalcuk

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith is/are:

Transmittal Form (1 pg.); Status Inquiry (2 pgs.); return-addressed stamped envelope (1); this Certificate of First Class Mailing and return receipt postcard.

**TRANSMITTAL  
FORM**



Application Serial Number	10/081,163
Filing Date	February 20, 2002
First Named Inventor	Chubinskaya
Group Art Unit	1641
Examiner Name	Not yet assigned
Attorney Docket No.	STK-081
Patent No.	Not applicable
Issue Date	Not applicable

**ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)**

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Check Attached</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Copy of Fee Transmittal Form</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Copy of Notice to File Missing Parts of Application (PTO-1553) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Formal Drawing(s)</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Appeal to Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Brief (in triplicate)</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Response <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Preliminary</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> After Final</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Letter to Official Draftsperson including Drawings [Total Sheets ____]</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> Request For Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney (Revocation of Prior Powers)</li> </ul>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Status Inquiry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt Postcard</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certificate of First Class Mailing under 37 C.F.R. 1.8</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Facsimile Transmission under 37 C.F.R. 1.8</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Additional Enclosure(s) (please identify below)</li> </ul>
<input type="checkbox"/> Petition for Extension of Time	<input type="checkbox"/> Executed Declaration and Power of Attorney for Utility or Design Patent Application <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Statement</li> </ul>	1. Return-addressed stamped envelope
<input type="checkbox"/> Second Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Form PTO-1449</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Copies of IDS Citations</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> CD(s) for large table or computer program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Amendment After Allowance</li> </ul>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Certificate of Correction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Correction (in duplicate)</li> </ul>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sequence Listing submission <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Paper Copy/CD</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Computer Readable Copy</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Statement verifying identity of above</li> </ul>		

**CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS**

Direct all correspondence to: Patent Administrator  
 Testa, Hurwitz & Thibeault, LLP  
 High Street Tower  
 125 High Street  
 Boston, MA 02110  
 Tel. No.: (617) 248-7000  
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**SIGNATURE BLOCK**

Respectfully submitted,

Diana M. Steel

Attorney for Applicants  
 Testa, Hurwitz & Thibeault, LLP  
 High Street Tower  
 125 High Street  
 Boston, MA 02110



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Attorney Docket No. STK-081  
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**STATUS INQUIRY**

Sir:

1. **More than 1 year and 8 months has passed since**

NEW APPLICATIONS

the filing of this application on February 20, 2002.

We received the Notification of Publication on December 19, 2002 but nothing further.

AMENDED APPLICATIONS

the filing of a Response to Restriction Requirement on \_\_\_\_\_. (resubmitted on \_\_\_\_)

No further communication has been received from the Patent and Trademark Office.

APPEALED APPLICATION.

The Appeal Brief was filed on \_\_\_\_\_.  
*(check and complete applicable items below)*

An Examiner's Answer was mailed on \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A Reply to the Examiner's Answer was submitted on \_\_\_\_\_.

Status Inquiry  
U.S. Serial No. 10/081,163  
Page 2 of 2

2. Kindly advise the undersigned of the present status of this application, by checking the appropriate box on this page. A stamped return-addressed envelope is provided.

Respectfully submitted,



Date: March 19, 2004  
Reg. No. 43,153  
Tel. No.: (617) 310-8168  
Fax No.: (617) 248-7100

Diana M. Steel  
Attorney for Applicants  
Testa, Hurwitz & Thibeault, LLP  
High Street Tower  
125 High Street  
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**STATUS INQUIRY REPLY**

APPLICATION SERIAL NO. \_\_\_\_\_ IS CURRENTLY

- ASSIGNED TO GROUP \_\_\_\_\_ AND AWAITS:  
 ACTION BY THE EXAMINER.  
 APPLICANT'S RESPONSE TO THE OFFICE ACTION  
MAILED \_\_\_\_\_

APPEAL NO. \_\_\_\_\_

- AWAITING ACTION BY THE BOARD OF PATENT  
APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES  
 DATE OF HEARING EXPECTED \_\_\_\_\_.  
 DECISION EXPECTED \_\_\_\_\_.